

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An instrument for providing illumination of intraocular tissue during surgery, said instrument
5 comprising:

a hand held light source, the light source comprises a light emitting diode (LED), a power source for driving the LED and a control switch for interconnecting the LED with said power source;

10 at least one fiber optic having a proximal end in light communication with the LED and a distal end sized for insertion into an eye for illumination of intraocular tissue.

15 2. The instrument according to claim 1 further comprising an iris disposed in the hand held light source for controlling light passage into the fiber optic.

20 3. The instrument according to claim 1 further comprising a shutter disposed in the hand held light source for controlling light passage into the fiber optic.

25 4. The instrument according to claim 1 further comprising a color filter disposed in the hand held light source for controlling a light spectrum passing into the fiber optic.

30 5. The instrument according to claim 1 further comprising two fiber optics, a first of the two fiber optic having a distal end for directing light along a longitudinal axis of the first fiber optic and a second of

the two fiber optics having a distal end for emitting light in a chandelier fashion.

6. The instrument according to claim 1 further
5 comprising two fiber optics, a first of the two fiber optics having a distal end for direction light along a longitudinal axis of the first fiber optic and a second of the two fiber optics having a distal end for directing light in flood light fashion.

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7. The instrument according to claim 5 or 6 when the first and second fiber optics are co-axial.

8. The instrument according to claim 5 or 6 further
15 comprising a light director, disposed in the hand held light source for enabling light passage into one of the first and second fiber optics.

9. The instrument according to claim 7 first
20 comprising an iris disposed in the hand held light source for controlling light passage into the first and second fiber optics.

10. The instrument according to claim 8 further
25 comprises a shutter disposed in the hand held light source for controlling light passage into the first and second fiber optics.

11. The instrument according to claim 9 further
30 comprise a manually controlled linkage for operating the iris.

12. The instrument according to claim 10 further comprises a manually controlled linkage for operating the shutter.

5 13. An instrument for providing illumination of intraocular tissue during surgery, said instrument comprising:

 a hand held light source, the light source comprising at least one light emitting diode (LED), a power source for
10 driving the LED and a control switch for interconnecting the LED with said power source; and

 at least one needle having a distal end for supporting the LED, a lumen for communicating an electrical connection between the LED and said power source.

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 14. The instrument according to claim 13 further comprises a lens disposed at the distal end for focusing light emitted from said LED.

20 15. The instrument according to claim 14 wherein said lens has an hourglass shape.